

Planetary Forecaster
Unit Introduction
What's the Big Challenge?

Before You Read

- Why is the weather an important part of your life?

Read the letter from the *Cooperative Space Agency* as a class. Continue to read pages 3 and 4 in your textbook as a class

Get Started

Answer the following questions on your own and be prepared to share them with your group.

1. What would make a place suitable for a human colony? Make a list of what you think is needed and why you think it is needed to sustain a colony.

2. As you know, people live all over the world. Carefully observe the pictures on page 5. They show different regions of the world. As you look at the pictures, think about the following questions and record your response:
 - What factors do you think affect the temperatures of the different regions?

 - How much do you think the temperatures change in the different regions at different times of year?

 - Which areas do you think would be best suited for a human colony? Why?

Conference

- Share your ideas with the rest of your group. Discuss the factors you thought affected the temperature of each region. Also, make sure that you understand why each group member thought an area was suitable for a human colony.
- Decide as a group what are the **most** important things you'll need to know about the temperature of a planet to figure out which areas are suitable for a human colony.
- What questions are important to investigate in order to successfully complete your challenge?

Create a Project Board

